

Kataroyan's excellence in basketball has taken her all the way to the 5th Annual World Olympics in New York and has also secured her a full basketball scholarship at UC Irvine.

Mano Handian was recognized as Scout of the Year. He is a scout for the Union's own Troop No. 12. He has accomplished a great deal for himself and the Armenian General Athletic Union. He was born in Lebanon and currently attends Fresno City College. His fine leadership over the organization's Boy Scouts, Explorers, and Cub Scouts has earned him this high honor.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate these three individuals. I commend Varoujan Balotian, Tamar Kataroyan, and Mano Handian on their accomplishments in the Armenian General Athletic Union and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating them.

BILL REGARDING SALLIE MAE BOND REFINANCING

HON. DAVID E. SKAGGS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. SKAGGS. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation to correct an unfair practice that is occurring as a result of the privatization of Sallie Mae.

While Sallie Mae was a Government-sponsored enterprise, it purchased tax-exempt municipal bonds issued by public colleges and private universities. Now that Sallie Mae is being privatized, it has adopted a policy of allowing its clients to waive the redemption premiums for those bonds, but only if the clients use Sallie Mae's private subsidiary as an investment banker for the transaction. I would have no objection to this business practice if the bonds in question were acquired after privatization. However, having acquired the bonds as a Government-sponsored enterprise, Sallie Mae has an advantage that private investment bankers cannot match. The tie-in requirement to qualify for this sweetheart arrangement, which no private competitor can match, is simply unfair.

The legislation I introduced today would prohibit Sallie Mae from conditioning the waiver of redemption premiums related to pre-1997 bonds on the use of its subsidiary, so that all broker-dealer firms can have the same opportunity to compete for the business of handling refinancing of Sallie Mae securities.

TRIBUTE TO JIM AND CAROL BAUM

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of Jim and Carol Baum, the owners and operators of Baum's, Inc. in Morris, IL. The Baum's have been named the 1997 Illinois Retail Merchants of the Year.

Baum's Department Store has been an institution in my hometown of Morris since 1874. Jim and Carol have been running the business

since the 1960's. Jim serves as the president and CEO, while Carol serves as the chief buyer and merchandise manager.

Both Baum's are extremely active in the Morris community. Many people often wonder how they have time to operate such a successful business. Jim, a veteran, serves on the board of the Grundy County National Bank, and is active in the chamber, many of the local community development organizations, the Morris Hospital, and our schools. Carol is active in the Presbyterian Church of Morris, the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Morris Women's Club.

I have had the pleasure of working with Jim on many local issues and projects important to the area. Jim has been recognized, and deservedly so, for his strong commitment and success in revitalizing the Morris riverfront area.

The Baum's have been generous in sharing their wealth of experience as retailers on both a national level and the local level. Jim has served as a guest speaker and seminar presenter on many occasions throughout the country. Many of my colleagues may have run into Jim Baum within the halls of Congress during one of Jim's trips to Washington to lobby on behalf of his fellow retailers. Locally, Jim runs the local morning coffee hour in our hometown of Morris. This is where the who's who talks about what is really happening.

It is truly fitting that this outstanding couple is being honored by their peers as the Retail Merchants of the Year. They are both true leaders who have given back more to their community than could ever have been expected. I wish both Jim and Carol Baum continued success in all their endeavors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DOROTHY (DOT) SLAMIN HILL

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this great body is the opportunity to recognize the exceptional individuals of our Nation. I rise today to pay tribute to such a person, Ms. Dorothy (Dot) Slamin Hill, for her many contributions to the City of Waltham, MA. This evening there will be a dinner honoring Dot for her 50 years as leader of the American Legion Post 156 Marching Band, as well as her outstanding public service to her neighbors.

I would like to add my congratulations to Dot on this special occasion and want to take this time to briefly touch on her many achievements. In 1933, Dot became the first woman to win the American Legion National Drum Major Competition. Over the years, she has led the American Legion Post 156 Marching Band in many prestigious events, such as the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland in 1984, and the Moscow May Day Parade in 1990. She has served as Commander of the American Legion Post 156 for 5 terms and is the permanent Massachusetts representative to the American Legion National Convention.

In addition to her many accomplishments with the American Legion, Dot has compiled a very distinguished record of community activism. She has taken a great interest in the

youth of her community, serving on the Waltham School Committee and on the board of directors of the YMCA. Dot was also the first woman member of her local Kiwanis Club, and has dedicated her time to many civic activities, including Waltham Community Access Television, and the Waltham Senior High Scholarship Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you, and the other Members, join with me in honoring Dot for her many years of devotion to her community and acknowledge her exemplary service as a role model and civic leader.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TIM AND CHARLOTTE TRAVIS

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, on September 23 of this month, Tim and Charlotte Travis of Brighton, CO, will receive the Colorado Sports Couple of the Year award from the downtown Denver chapter of Ducks Unlimited. This is the very same chapter that Tim founded nearly 20 years ago when he first became affiliated with the organization.

In recent years, the Travis' have increased the amount of money they have been able to donate to Ducks Unlimited and the Denver chapter has expressed their gratification by extending them this honor. The Denver chapter will also be creating a wetlands project in eastern Colorado which will be dedicated in the Travis' name.

I too, would like to extend my gratification to the Travis' for their many years of giving to this organization as well as to the sporting way of life which we treasure in the great State of Colorado.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COL. RONALD T. KELLY, USAF

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedication, public service, and patriotism of Col. Ronald T. Kelly, U.S. Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement after a career of faithful service to our Nation. Col. Ron Kelly's strong commitment to excellence will leave a lasting impact on the vitality and capability of our Air Force war fighters. This commitment and the manner in which he fulfilled it commands admiration and respect from his military and civilian colleagues alike.

Colonel Kelly, a 1970 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy is serving his last assignment in the Air Force as Chief of the Air Force Special Operations Division, Directorate of Operations and Training, Deputy Chief of Staff Air and Space Operations, in the Pentagon.

After he completed undergraduate navigator training as a distinguished graduate in 1971, he flew as a C-130 squadron navigator at Forbes AFB, KS, in the 48th Tactical Airlift Squadron. In 1972 he was selected to upgrade to an MC-130 combat Talon navigator

and served in the 1st Special Operations Squadron, Kadena AB, Japan until December 1973. From 1974 to 1976 he was an instructor navigator at Mather AFB, CA, flying the T-29 and T-43 aircraft.

He attended the School of Engineering at the Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright Patterson AFB, OH, and received a master's of science degree in astronautical engineering in 1977. He followed with a directed duty assignment to Sunnyvale AFS, CA where he became the Deputy Mission Director for Low Altitude Satellite Programs at the Air Force Satellite Control Facility.

He returned to flying duties in special operations in 1981 and became operations officer for the 8th Special Operations Squadron at Hurlburt Field, FL, flying the MC-130E.

From 1985 to 1986 he attended the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at Fort McNair and was subsequently assigned to the Pentagon in 1986.

He served as the special operations programmer on the Air Staff and was the primary implementer for major force program 11 for the Air Force. In November 1987 he was selected to be the first military assistant to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict. While in this office, he worked as the Assistant for Resources and Assistant for Logistics.

In 1991 he returned to Hurlburt Field, FL, as the Director of Acquisition Management for Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command where he supervised the acquisition of Air Force resources in support of special operations. He was assigned to his present job as the Chief of the Special Operations Division in August 1993.

Colonel Kelly is a master navigator with over 4,000 hours total flight time of which 380 hours were in combat. His decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Air Medal with six oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster. He has also been awarded the Senior Missileman Badge.

He is married to the former Pamela Stark of Sacramento, CA. They have a daughter Erin who is a freshman at James Madison University and a son Sean who is a freshman at Oakton High.

Our Nation, the Department of Defense, the U.S. Air Force, and his family can truly be proud of the colonel's many accomplishments. He is a true gentleman of extraordinary talent and integrity. While his honorable service will be genuinely missed in the Department of Defense, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Col. Ronald T. Kelly before my colleagues and wish him all of our best in his future endeavors.

THE CHARITABLE GIVING RELIEF ACT

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, along with my Ways and Means colleagues, Mr. COYNE, Mr. HERGER and Mrs. THURMAN, entitled the "Charitable

Giving Relief Act." This legislation will provide a deduction for charitable contributions for those who do not itemize deductions on their tax returns.

Specifically, the bill will allow nonitemizers, whose cumulative annual charitable contributions exceed \$500, to deduct 50 percent of any charitable contributions made over that amount. Under current law, while nonitemizers receive the standard deduction, the only taxpayers who can specifically deduct the value of their charitable contributions are those taxpayers who itemize deductions. The most recent figures find that nonitemized returns number 84 million compared to 34 million itemized returns. Nonitemizers, by any measure, are middle- and lower-middle-class taxpayers, who, despite the fact that they do not receive a deduction for such contributions, give generously to charitable causes. It is my understanding that on average nonitemizers give roughly \$500 in charitable contributions, again, without the benefit of tax deductions.

As we look to next year and the consideration of additional tax relief legislation, I believe there is no group of taxpayers more deserving of tax relief than those who give of what little they have to help other worthy endeavors and charitable causes. While those who itemize are directly rewarded for their efforts, those that do not itemize are not rewarded. The legislation I am introducing today will ensure that those who make considerable contributions to the nonprofit community are rewarded, at least to some extent, by the Tax Code.

For those who might suggest that nonitemizers are rewarded by virtue of the fact that the standard deduction for nonitemizers is intended to incorporate some degree of charitable contributions, I would respond by pointing to the figures mentioned earlier. Indeed, the standard deduction is, in effect, designed to take into account the average cumulative basket of those expenditures, including charitable contributions, that might otherwise be considered as individually itemized deductions. However, since my legislation is designed to provide a partial deduction—50 percent—for those nonitemizers who contribute more than the average amount to charity, such a concern would certainly appear to be something less than compelling.

Finally, I would note that while in my view, donations to charity are primarily motivated by altruistic concerns, those that give can be sensitive to tax considerations. Independent Sector, the largest national association for nonprofits, strongly believes this legislation will encourage additional giving to the charitable-nonprofit sector. My colleagues, whether you believe that we need to reward those that give, or believe that this type proposal will encourage more giving, this bill deserves your consideration and support. Americans are the most generous people in the world, and I hope to reward and continue this tradition with today's introduction of the Charitable Giving Relief Act.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes:

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Chairman, we must stop this trend of escalating numbers of young girls becoming pregnant and raising children when they have hardly escaped childhood themselves. It is imperative that we as leaders address the Nation's problem of teenage pregnancy with the most practical and effective strategies, the most important of which is education.

An accurate and informative education on pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases is not being provided to those who are the most vulnerable and are in the most need of this information. Parents, legal guardians, and other adults influencing children should emphasize healthy and responsible sexual development and decisionmaking, yet study after study of adolescent youth demonstrates that this is lacking in the home. In addition to family, poverty, sexism, and economic disenfranchisement are critical factors shaping the ability of teenagers to make decisions and yet, teenagers have little influence on any of these areas. What adolescents need, and are provided by the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, are the knowledge and confidence to make the best decisions despite, and in light of, these factors.

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program is designed to implement and evaluate a range of interventions that promote healthy sexual development and reduce teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. The program also focuses on decreasing the incidence of pregnancies to teenagers by increasing the proportion of teens who delay the initiation of sexual activity, and who effectively use contraception.

We all know that teenage childbearing robs not only the young parents of a better future, but the baby as well. That is why we must work together to ensure that the Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program can continue its work to buck the current trend of increasing teen pregnancy. And that is why we must pass the Pelosi amendment.

LUZERNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 1997

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Luzerne County Community